

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO.

INFORMATION REPORT

CONFIDENTIAL

COUNTRY Austria/USSR

SUBJECT Soviet Sales of Machinery and Equipment from USIA Construction Firms

PLACE ACQUIRED

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

1. USIA is now selling all machinery and equipment held by the USIA-controlled construction firms, Sager & Woerner, Philipp Holzmann A. G., Vianova Bau A. G., and A. Porr A. G., to both Austrian and foreign buyers.*
2. Although all machinery and equipment held by the USIA-controlled branch of A. Porr A. G. is to be sold to Austrian purchasers; SIDOROV, Soviet Director of USIA's Construction and Building Materials Administration, has allegedly stated that Soviet export clearance will be granted for all items shipped to Western Austria. TUTTNER, Austrian director of the USIA branch of Porr A. G., and Engr. ROTT, his assistant, have made arrangements to sell this machinery at low prices to enable the non-USIA branch of Porr A. G. to make this purchase. SIDOROV allegedly is aware of this proposed transaction and apparently has agreed to these prices.**
3. Prompted by their concern over the growing hostility of USIA employees toward Soviet dismantling projects, Robert DUBOVSKY, member of the Public Welfare Section of the Austrian Communist Party Central Committee, and Robert ROSSAK, USIA Communist personnel officer, have urged TIKHOMIROV, General Director of USIA, to suspend dismantling operations until after the Austrian national elections 9 October 1949. TIKHOMIROV allegedly has agreed to a temporary slow-down, but has stated that USIA will resume its accelerated program of dismantling and sales immediately after the Austrian elections.

* **Comment:** It was reported that SIDOROV had received a directive from [redacted] to appraise all machinery now held at firms supervised by USIA's Construction and Building Materials Administration.

** **Comment:** [redacted]

This document is hereby regraded to **CONFIDENTIAL** in accordance with the letter of 31 October 1971 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the [redacted]

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NO CHANGE in Class.

☒ DECLASSIFIED

Class. CHANGED TO: TS S C

DATE: 4 Apr 77

Auth: [redacted]

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CLASSIFICATION

SECRET